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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. R2180.0161/P161

First Inventor Yasushi Abe

Title APPARATUS, PROGRAM, MEDIUM FOR IMAGE-
AREA SEPARATION, IMAGE PROCESSING AND
IMAGE FORMING

Express Mail Label No. _____

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)

2. Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

3. Specification [Total Pages 38]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the invention
- Cross Reference to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
- Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
- Background of the Invention
- Brief Summary of the Invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
- Detailed Description
- Claim(s)
- Abstract of the Disclosure

4. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 16]

5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets _____]
a. Newly executed (original or copy)
b. Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

6. Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

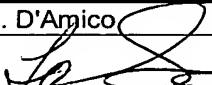
18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

 Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No. _____

Prior application information: Examiner _____ Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	24998		<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name	DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP Thomas J. D'Amico		
Address	2101 L Street NW		
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Country	US	Telephone	(202) 785-9700
Name (Print/Type)	Thomas J. D'Amico	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,371
Signature			Date
			July 17, 2003

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07/17/03
18334 U.S. PTO

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 01/01/2003, Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 1,062.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	July 17, 2003
First Named Inventor	Yasushi Abe
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit	N/A

Attorney Docket No. R2180.0161/P161

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Check	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Money Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account				

Deposit Account Number 04-1073

Deposit Account Name Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP

The Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application	
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.	

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)
1051	130	2051	65 Surcharge – late filing fee or oath
1052	50	2052	25 Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.
1053	130	1053	130 Non-English specification
1812	2,520	1812	2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination
1804	920*	1804	920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action
1251	110	2251	55 Extension for reply within first month
1252	410	2252	205 Extension for reply within second month
1253	930	2253	465 Extension for reply within third month
1254	1,450	2254	725 Extension for reply within fourth month
1255	1,970	2255	985 Extension for reply within fifth month
1401	320	2401	160 Notice of Appeal
1402	320	2402	160 Filing a brief in support of an appeal
1403	280	2403	140 Request for oral hearing
1451	1,510	1451	1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding
1452	110	2452	55 Petition to revive – unavoidable
1453	1,300	2453	650 Petition to revive - unintentional
1501	1,300	2501	650 Utility issue fee (or reissue)
1502	470	2502	235 Design issue fee
1503	630	2503	315 Plant issue fee
1460	130	1460	130 Petitions to the Commissioner
1807	50	1807	50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)
1806	180	1806	180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt
8021	40	8021	40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)
1809	750	2809	375 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))
1810	750	2810	375 For each additional invention to be examined (37CFR 1.129(b))
1801	750	2801	375 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
1802	900	1802	900 Request for expedited examination of a design application

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0.00)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas J. D'Amico	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,371	Telephone	(202) 828-2232
Signature				Date	July 17, 2003